

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the non-final Office Action dated May 4, 2007. Claims 1-23 are pending, with Claims 1, 16 and 17 in independent form. No changes have been made to the claims by this response. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 9-10, 16-17, and 19-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated over U.S. Patent No. 6,668,090 (Joshi et al.). Claims 2, 4-8, 11-15, and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,668,090 (Joshi et al). Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are patentable over the rejecting reference for at least the following reasons.

Independent Claim 1 requires, among other things, “assigning each said codeblocks one of said image types”, “each said image type having a preassigned one of a plurality of quantization step-size sets.” See Claim 1 at page 29, lines 14 and 5-6 of the specification.

As allegedly teaching these features, the Office Action broadly refers to FIGS. 1 and 2 and col. 5, lines 22-55 of the Joshi et al. Patent. However, the Joshi et al. Patent is not understood to teach or suggest a linking between (a) codeblock and image type, and (b) image type and quantization step-size set, as required by Claim 1. In fact, the Joshi et al. Patent appears not to discuss image type at all in this regard. For example, the Joshi et al. Patent states that “[e]ach codeblock is compressed by the codeblock compression unit (206) using the appropriate quantizer step-size (209)” Col. 5, lines 27-29. However, the Joshi et al. Patent has not been found to teach or suggest that its “appropriate quantizer step-size” is selected based on an image type assigned to the respective codeblock, as required by Claim 1.

For at least the above discussed reason, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1 is patentable over the rejecting reference.

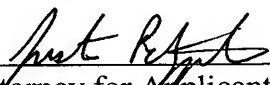
Independent Claims 16 and 17 include the same or similar features as those discussed above in connection with Claim 1 and, therefore, are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reason.

The other claims in this application depend from one of the independent claims discussed above and, therefore, also are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reason. Since each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, individual reconsideration of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and the allowance of the present application.

No petition to extend the time for response to this Office Action is deemed necessary for the present Amendment. If, however, such a petition is required to make this Amendment timely filed, then this paper should be considered such a petition and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite petition fee to Deposit Account 05-0225.

Respectfully submitted,



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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.